

[54] ELECTRONIC POSTAGE METER WITH WEAK MEMORY INDICATION

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

An electronic postage meter having an accounting section including a nonvolatile memory (NVM), computer means for reading the condition of the nonvolatile memory during a power-up cycle of the meter, and means in the meter for storing any signal which results from the reading of the nonvolatile memory by the computer means. In accordance with further aspects of the present invention, a method is provided for determining that an electronic postage meter has a weak nonvolatile memory, a data center and service department are adapted to receive signals from the meter indicating a weak nonvolatile memory, and an intercommunication system is established between the data center to receive signals from the meter indicating a weak nonvolatile memory.

14 Claims, 7 Drawing Figures

